

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor



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**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF THE
DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 15, 2006**

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**THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING
LAUNCHES ITS OFFICIAL WEBSITE**

Annapolis, MD (November 15, 2006): Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. and the Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) are pleased to announce the launch of the new ODHH website, www.odhh.md.gov. The website will serve as a resource for the deaf and hard of hearing community as well as individuals and organizations working with people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

The website's resources address assistive technology and hearing aids, children and youth services, services for people who are deaf-blind, education, mental health and substance abuse, sign language classes, senior citizens and aging, and numerous other topics. The website also provides an opportunity for constituents to submit requests for services and for state and private agencies to submit requests for awareness training and technical assistance. Users can also keep up with ODHH's progress by accessing Advisory Council meeting minutes, the Five-Year Strategic Plan, and Legislative Updates.

ODHH believes that all Maryland citizens who are deaf or hard of hearing should have equal and full access to resources, services and opportunities for participation in all aspects of community life through the provision of appropriate accommodations. With the launch of the website, ODHH hopes to promote its mission to provide expertise related to deaf and hard of hearing issues to Maryland citizens and to facilitate their ability to access resources and services.